

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2683

INFO RUEHBAZ/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 3007

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DEPTO 42

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH)

SUBJ: DEPSEC VISIT CANBERRA, DEPARTURE STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING IS DEPARTURE STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED 1430 LOCAL
TIME, MARCH 2.

DEPARTURE STATEMENT FOR UNITED STATES DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE
KENNETH RUSH CANBERRA, MARCH 2, 1974

IT IS A GENUINE PLEASURE FOR ME TO VISIT AUSTRALIA, PARTICULARLY
AT THIS TIME OF YEAR WHEN WINTER IS STILL WITH US IN THE
UNITED STATES. WE AMERICANS USUALLY JUDGE THAT SPRING COMES ON
MARCH 21, BUT I NOTE THAT MARCH 1, IN AUSTRALIA, IS THE FIRST
DAY OF FALL.

PERHAPS THAT DIFFERENCE IN INTERPRETATION SUGGESTS THE CLOSE
AND ENDURING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, UNDER WHICH
WE PRESERVE OUR SEPARATE IDENTITIES AND, OCCASIONALLY, OUR
DIFFERENT INTERESTS AND PERCEPTIONS. AS THE ANZUS COUNCIL
COMMUNIQUE OF FEBRUARY 27 NOTES, AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED STATES,
AND NEW ZEALAND HAVE A BROAD COMMUNITY OF INTEREST AND A SHARED
HERITAGE OF REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, AND
RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW. THESE TRADITIONS AND THESE SHARED
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VALUES BIND TOGETHER OUR PEOPLES AND OUR GOVERNMENTS. WE MUST

NOT PERMIT THE WELCOME ERA OF DETENTE ASSOCIATED WITH THE POLICIES OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY KISSINGER TO CAUSE US TO LET DOWN OUR GUARDS OR TO PERMIT ANY EROSION IN OUR TRADITIONAL ALLIANCES. DETENTE AND NEGOTIATION OF DIFFERENCES ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE MAINTENANCE OF AN EFFECTIVE BALANCE OF FORCES.

IT HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY WORTHWHILE FOR ME TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOUR DISTINGUISHED LEADERS, PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BARNARD, AND WITH OTHER OFFICIALS. THESE TALKS WERE CONDUCTED IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, CANDOR AND FRIENDSHIP. MY VISIT TO AUSTRALIA IMPRESSES ME WITH THE VITALITY OF OUR ALLIANCE. THERE IS NO NEED FOR OUR VIEWS TO BE IDENTICAL ON ALL ISSUES, THOUGH WE MUST ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THAT THE BONDS ARE STRONG, PERMANENT AND IMPORTANT.

DURING MY RECENT VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA, I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY AUSTRALIA TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA TO MOVE TOWARD INDEPENDENCE, AND TO CONTINUE THIS ASSISTANCE IN THE PERIOD AFTER INDEPENDENCE IS FORMALLY RECOGNIZED. AUSTRALIA CAN BE JUSTLY PROUD OF ITS RECORD IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

IN CONCLUDING, I WISH TO THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA, AND PARTICULARLY PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM, FOR THE HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO MYSELF AND MRS. RUSH DURING OUR STAY. I ONLY HOPE THAT NEXT TIME WE MAY REMAIN LONGER AND DEVELOP MORE FRIENDSHIPS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE.

RUSH

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